



# NEWS RELEASE

OFFICE OF THE UNITED STATES ATTORNEY  
WESTERN DISTRICT OF MISSOURI

**TODD P. GRAVES**

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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

## **BRANSON MAN PLEADS GUILTY TO OBTAINING FALSE I.D., SOCIAL SECURITY FRAUD, ILLEGAL POSSESSION OF FIREARM**

**SPRINGFIELD, Mo.** – Todd P. Graves, United States Attorney for the Western District of Missouri, announced that a Branson, Mo., man pleaded guilty in federal court today to assuming a false identity using another person's name and Social Security number and illegally possessing a firearm.

**Dennis Lynn Charlton**, 52, of Branson, Mo., pleaded guilty before U.S. Magistrate Judge James C. England this morning.

By pleading guilty, **Charlton** admitted that he purposefully applied for a Missouri driver's license using the name and Social Security number of another person on June 24, 2003, in Branson West, Mo.

Specifically, **Charlton** admitted that he renewed a Missouri driver's license in Branson West that contained his photograph and the name and Social Security number of another individual. In the course of renewing the license, **Charlton** falsely represented to the Missouri Department of Revenue that the individual's name and Social Security number belonged to him. **Charlton** admitted that he did so to deceive the Missouri Department of Revenue as to his true identity, Graves said.

**Charlton** also admitted that he was in possession of a .410-gauge Montgomery Wards shotgun and a .22-caliber /.410-gauge Stevens Arms rifle/shotgun on Feb. 10, 2004, in Branson. Under federal statutes, Graves explained, it is illegal for any felon to be in possession of any firearm or ammunition. **Charlton** has a 1995 criminal felony conviction for driving while intoxicated in Macon County, Mo.

**Charlton** was originally charged in an indictment returned by a federal grand jury on May 5, 2004, in Springfield.

Under federal statutes, Graves explained, **Charlton** may be subject to a maximum sentence of up to 10 years in federal prison without parole, plus a fine up to \$250,000.

The case is being prosecuted by Assistant U.S. Attorney Douglas C. Bunch. It was investigated by the Office of the Inspector General for the Social Security Administration, the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives, the Branson, Mo., Police Department, the Branson West, Mo., Police Department and the Indian Point, Mo., Police Department.

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This news release, as well as additional information about the office of the United States Attorney for the Western District of Missouri, is available on-line at  
[www.usdoj.gov/usao/mow](http://www.usdoj.gov/usao/mow)